

For a while there, I was eagerly looking forward to Valentine's Dav.

For while I have no hopes for a dozen red roses at fifty bucks a shot, there was recent evidence that perhaps my valentines might all chip in and ante up about a 10 pound box of top notch chocolates for their chief cook and calf feeder.

They actually had told me, you see, that I don't weigh enough.

You've got to understand the background from whence this inconceivable notion cometh.

The problem was that I slowed up the sledding.

Site of this unlikely revelation is our favorite upstate haunt where squirrels and chickadees play in the piney woods and snowmobiles pack the mountain trails just right for a Lightning Glider streak down through the stands of laurel.

With eager anticipation, a perfect crispy, wintry morning and a mountainside filled with pristine snow laced with packed paths, we steadily ascended the trail during a quickie weekend stop at the hunting camp during a cattlehauling business excursion.

It was Dad who departed first

from the summit, zipping downhill and disappearing around the first bend, through a patch of scrub logging regrowth, a cloud of snow flying from the sled runners.

I was nominated next on the run. Jouncing over the initial hip and rib jarring bumps in the trail, I swerved around the first sharp angle and eyeballed the fairly level stretches ahead, broken only by a slight incline.

While the first flat caused me considerable loss of momentum, the second demanded that I shove gloved hands into the snow beneath and "help" my mode of transport along until the slope again steepened.

Funny, I had remembered it as much faster. Maybe the ice storm the last time had helped.

Imagine the humiliation when, three quarters of the way down, a voice yelled into my ear "Move over!" and the teenager zoomed past at a clip considerably faster than mine.

Not much farther along, a second indignity was heaped on my belly-down prone form, clawing my way down this run inch by inch. It was the junior farmer, guf-

fawing for all he was worth, and throwing back some snide remark as he swished past, leaving me to lurch to the bottom of the path where a trio of speedsters showered me with snide comments about my conservative coasting.

Ensueing runs down the mountain, even one on Third Gap's ice-packed dirt road, left yours truly bringing up the rear.

Plus, with each additional ride, the bumps grew higher and the dips deeper, while increasingly sore spots on hips and ribs

crashing into the sled screamed how black and blue they were turning.

It was a unanimous conclusion that maybe Mom needed more weight for speed and padding

A hint about Valentine's Day certainly couldn't hurt.

Second thoughts set in, though, when I hauled in the morning mail back home and there before my

section of cow mat for between me and the sled, and round me up a couple of heart-shaped rocks from the corn field that I can lace around my ankles for sledding

Perry Co. DHIA

weight.

Fashions."

I get the hint.

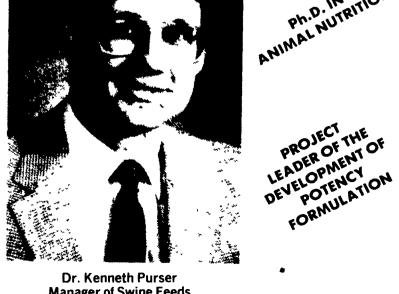
eyes was a colorful catalog of

clothing labeled "Full Figure

Skip the chocolates. Just lop off a

	(Continued from Page B26)					
Winter Pruning Good for	Ivan M Martin					
s and in the second joint	55	83	305	17,574	41	721
	92	63	305	21,101	37	771
Summer Flowering Plants	Duane L He					
8	19	6-1	305	18,184	42	765
Here's a reminder from C.R	20	5 10	295	20,509	36	739
Bryan, Jr, Delaware County	Ed&Wilma N Ladv	5 2	205	01.100		
Extension agent, that the dormant	Gary H Haas		305	21,133	35	745
season is a good time to prune	Ivana	, 96	302	18,909	35	667
ornamental shrubs and vines,	Rap	žš	305	19,855	34	666
particularly summer flowering	John L King			10,000	54	000
shrubs.	Alberta	73	305	19,163	36	683
You should prune to improve the	Evelyn	59	305	19 899	36	720
health of your plants, control size	Daisy	35	305	17 440	42	732
and shape impresses the flower	Dale Smoker 147		205			_
and shape, increase the flower	Edwin L She	10 3	305	19,284	44	841
display and remove overcrowded	Clem	6 3	305	20,236	41	0.75
stems or branches. To improve the	Joy	36	305	19 813	41	835 830
nealth of your plants, cut out dead,	Arthur E Du		303	19013	4 2	830
diseased or damaged wood and	Tillie	4 1 1	305	18 135	39	711
remove old wood that interferes	Cedar Lane	Farm			00	
with new growth	38	53	305	22 762	35	803
Unless you use them as formal	47	55	250	17 071	39	660
hedges, prune your shrubs so they	R Jack Crozi					
keep their natural shape Vines	Becky	91 53	282	20,336	33	664
need pruning to limit growth and	Bessie Gray Meadov		305	21 038	33	6 9 0
remove old wood. By pruning	Daphne	6.7	305	21 960	33	735
branches back to a bud you can	J Marvin Lar		303	21 900	33	/35
control the direction of growth.	45	55	305	14,579	49	717
The new shoot will grow in the	J Ted Troutn	nan Sons				
direction the bud points.	Tina	45	305	17 671	37	650
	Howard&Pau					
	Piney	8-9	305	22 082	34	742
	JW&C& Ache Mabel		205	10.411		
remove many of the flower buds	Robert&Berr	4 11	305	18,411	38	697
that will bloom in the spring.	Bonnie	7 8	305	19,856	40	796
Prune spring flowering shrubs as	Wayne L Ster		305	19,000	40	190
soon as the flowers fade in the	Kendra	50	305	26 634	27	709
spring before new growth begins	MW Smith Fa			20 004	2,	,03
	Cindy	40	305	17,444	40	700

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